IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA WESTERN DIVISION

Civil Action No.: 5:19-cv-250-FL

EPIC GAMES, INC.,)
Plaintiff,)
v.	DECLARATION OF CATHERINE LAWSON
C.B.,)
Defendant.)))

- I, Catherine Lawson, hereby declare and state as follows:
- 1. I am over 18 years of age, suffer from no known disability, and have personal knowledge of the facts set forth herein. All the statements in this declaration are true and correct.
- 2. I am currently, and for all times relevant to this matter have been, an attorney at Parker Poe, Adams & Bernstein LLP and counsel for the Plaintiff, Epic Games, Inc. ("Epic").

Accessing Fortnite

- 3. Would-be users who intend to play Fortnite on their personal computers must first download and install Fortnite's software.
- 4. Downloading Fortnite requires going to the Epic Games Store (available at: <epicgames.com/store>) and clicking the Fortnite icon which reads: "Fortnite Battle Royale Epic Games Free." A true and correct screen-print of the Epic Games Store homepage is attached to this declaration as **Exhibit 1**.
- 5. After clicking the Fortnite icon, would-be are taken to a Fortnite page, from which Fortnite Battle Royale may be downloaded by clicking on a button which reads "GET." The Fortnite Battle Royale webpage may be accessed at https://www.epicgames.com/store/en-US/product/fortnite/home?purchaseIntentId=09176f4ff7564bbbb499bbe20bd6348f. A true and PPAB 5083411v3.docx

correct screen-print of the Fortnite Battle Royale page is attached to this declaration as **Exhibit 2**.

- 6. After clicking the "GET" button, a would-be must sign in to his or her Epic Games account before he or she can download Fortnite.
 - 7. Creating an account with Epic is a prerequisite to playing Fortnite.
- 8. Creating an Epic Games account requires that would-be users provide their first name, last name, and email address, create a display name and password, and then click on a button which affirms: "I have read and agree to the terms of service." On the account creation page, the words "terms of service" appear in bright blue font set against a white background and hyperlink to Epic's Terms of Service. Users must then click "I'm not a robot" and click the "Create Account" button to complete the account creation process. Epic's "Create Account" webpage can be accessed at: https://accounts.epicgames.com/login?lang=en_US&redirectUrl=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.epicgames.com%2Fstore%2Fen-

US%2F&client_id=875a3b57d3a640a6b7f9b4e883463ab4&noHostRedirect=true>. A true and correct screen-print of Epic's Create Account webpage is attached to this declaration as **Exhibit**3. Epic's TOS is also accessible by a link at the bottom of the Epic Games Store webpage along with legal notices and store policies.

9. After signing in to his or her Epic Games account, a window with the scrollable Fortnite® End User License Agreement ("EULA") opens on the user's screen. The would-be user may then read the EULA and either (a) check a box that reads "I have read and agree with the End User License Agreement," and click the "Accept" button, (which is not available unless the would-be user first indicates he or she has read the EULA,) or (b) click the "Dismiss" button. (*Id.*) Would-be users who click "Dismiss," or who close the page without clicking "Accept,"

cannot download or install Fortnite. Those who acknowledge that they "have read and agree with the End User License Agreement may download, install, and play Fortnite. The EULA is also available on <fortnite.com>.

Defendant's Conduct

- 10. Defendant in the above-caption action ("Defendant") operates at least two YouTube channels under the name "CBV." On one of these channels, he posted at least six videos of himself playing and cheating at Fortnite. Together, these videos have been viewed a total of over 550,000 times. True and correct screen-prints of Defendant's postings of these videos showing the number of views each video had are attached collectively to this declaration as **Exhibit 4**.
- 11. On June 21, 2019, Defendant posted a video to his CBV channel discussing the contents of the complaint filed by Epic in the above-captioned action (the "Complaint"). In this video, Defendant claims Epic is suing him "just because I made Fortnite cheats... just because I allegedly made Fortnite cheats." Defendant went on to say "f*ck Epic Games . . . at least they can't come after my channel anymore, I'm never going to make a Fortnite video . . . they can just f*ck their brand on their own." Defendant then explained why he creates cheat software, saying "it's really hard to make it as a content creator in this community . . . just being a good player isn't good enough anymore, so you have to do something that stands out, and no one cheats in this game, so it was a great opportunity for me to build a brand for myself." This video can be accessed at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tRYKh19QPdc. A true and correct downloaded copy of this video is being submitted to the Court with this declaration as Exhibit 5.
- 12. On June 22, 2019, Defendant posted another video. This video includes images of the complaint in the above-captioned action. In this video, Defendant tells his audience that he "already has a pretty good attorney" and flips through the pages of the Complaint to the tune of

Jay-Z's "Hard Knock Life." This video can be accessed at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zEEVUMZpOc. A true and correct downloaded copy of this video is being submitted to the Court with this declaration as **Exhibit 6**.

- 13. The posts for both of these videos contain links to Defendant's business, "Nexus Cheats," from which Defendant's cheats could be purchased. True and correct screen-prints of the posted videos showing the links are attached to this declaration as **Exhibit 7**.
- 14. On or around July 9, 2019, Defendant created the YouTube channel "NotDiscord." A true and correct screen-print of this channel is attached to this declaration as **Exhibit 8**.
- 15. On or around July 15, 2019, Defendant published a new video titled "Fortnite AIMBOT/WALLHACKS/**LIVE**(nexuscheats)." A true and correct downloaded copy of this video is being submitted to the Court with this declaration as **Exhibit 9**.
- 16. In this video, Defendant said it was his "first time streaming since I've been sued." Defendant live-streamed himself logging into Fortnite and demonstrating his hacks as he played the game, and answered questions posted by viewers in real time. When asked about the lawsuit, Defendant assured his viewers (and customers) that "we have a very, very good attorney and I'm not going to incriminate myself, but Epic made a very big mistake in their lawsuit and I have no worries." He also said that "we had to change our servers when we got sued."
- 17. In this video, Defendant also responded to questions about his cheat software and provided advice and technical support for customers who were struggling with how to use it. Defendant discussed being banned by Epic and repeatedly assured his audience that his cheats still worked on Fortnite, explained that "the only cheat that we inject with Discord overlay is Fortnite, and that's just because we're very sophisticated. Because Epic is on our ass 24/7," and demonstrated that his cheats did work, saying "you just watched me spoof live in front of you."

For issues too complex to explain while simultaneously playing and cheating at Fortnite, Defendant told his viewers to "submit a ticket" and he would get back to them, or to "make a ticket to my staff, Tim will tell you what to do."

- 18. Defendant acknowledged Epic's efforts to prevent him and others from using the hacks he sells to cheat at Fortnite, commenting that "we get detected like once a week and we update overnight."
- 19. In his July 15, 2019 video, Defendant admits that he "very, very rarely" plays Fortnite "legit."
- 20. On August 1, 2019, Defendant registered a new website, <nexuscheats.us>. A true and correct screen-print of the WHOIS registration page is attached to this Declaration as **Exhibit 10**.
- 21. On or around August 13, 2019, Defendant posted on his CBV YouTube channel's community page: "https://nexuscheats.us/shop/ new shop is up. status video coming soon <3."

 Defendant's community page can be accessed at: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCYhPTtfyt2VQOCsvqe5y2MA/community. A true and correct screen-print of this post is attached to this Declaration as https://www.youtube.com/channel/ucyhpTtfyt2vqocsvqe5y2MA/community. A true and
- 22. As of at least as recently as August 16, 2019, Defendant's website featured Fortnite cheat software for sale and had a status page which shows whether those products are categorized as "Undetected" (safe to use), "Testing" (might be detected or causing quick bans for some people, use at your own risk), or "Down" (outdated/detected or updating). True and correct screen-prints of Defendant's <nexuscheats.us> website are attached to this Declaration as **Exhibit 12**.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on this 26 day of August, 2019.

Catherine R.L. Lawson

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

This is to certify that a copy of the foregoing **DECLARATION OF CATHERINE LAWSON** was electronically filed on this day with the Clerk of Court using the CM/ECF system and a true and accurate copy was sent by U.S. Mail addressed to the following:

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This 26th day of August, 2019.

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/s/ Christopher M. Thomas

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